



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HONOLULU

August 25, 2010

Mr. Wayne Y. Yoshioka
City Department of Transportation Services
630 South King Street, 3rd Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Yoshioka:

Subject: Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project FEIS

The Honolulu League of Women Voters submits the following comments on projected population figures that the City is using in the rail FEIS. A corrected population figures might have a negative effect on their present daily ridership and revenue figures.

The Star-Advertiser on July 31, 2010 quoted an official from the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) saying that the FEIS was based on DBEDT's population projections for 2030 which were prepared in August 2004 and published in the 2004 State Data Book (attachment # 1). The 2030 population projection in the FEIS on page 1-10 is 1,117,200 people on Oahu. The DTS official didn't indicate in the news article that two later revised population projections were considered in their calculation of ridership and revenue projections.

DBEDT issued a new Oahu population projection in January, 2008 (attachment # 2). Its revised projection for 2030 is 1,080,700 which is 36,500 less people than the 2004 projection forecast. DBEDT in 2009 (attachment # 3) again revised its population projections. They project the 2030 population to be 1,017,200 which is 99,635 less than their 2004 projection for 2030. This decrease in the 2030 projected population might have some negative effect on the City's ridership and revenue figures. It is something that Oahu taxpayers should know before the start of the rail construction.

Next, look at the annual growth rate (%) for Honolulu in the three sets of DBEDT population projections taken from attachments # 1 to 3. You notice that the annual growth rate decreases when you go from the 2004 to the 2009 projections. The annual growth rates from 2010 to 2030 in the 2009 population projections is higher than 2005-2010 annual growth rate of 0.3%. We question the higher annual growth rates for 2010 to 2030 in the 2009 projection series.

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DEPT OF
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

<u>Annual growth rate (%)nfor Honolulu Population</u>			
<u>DBEDT Projections in</u>			
Years	Aug. 2004	Jan. 2008	July 2009
2005-10	0.9	0.7	0.3
2010-15	0.9	0.9	0.6
2015-20	0.8	0.7	0.6
2020-25	0.8	0.7	0,5
2025-30	0.7	0.7	0.5
2030-35	—	0.6	0.4

The U.S. Census Bureau annual population estimates from 2000 to 2009 for Honolulu County (attachment # 4) caused DBEDT to change Its population projections in Jan. 2008 and July 2009. Estimates are Usually better than projections. Since the Census figures were much Lower for 2000 to 2009 than DBEDT projections, DBEDT lowered its 2005 to 2010 projections in line with the Census estimates.

The growth rate of the Census population estimates from April 2000 to July 2009 was 3.6% as indicated in attachment # 4. As a worst-case Scenario, if population growth to 2030 were to continue at the same Rate of 3.6%, then the 2030 population would be 978,667 which is 136,533 less than the FEIS population for 2030.

You might ask how accurate is the Census estimates. The April 2000 Census count was 876,158 and the July 1, 2000 Census estimate was 875,061. The difference is 1,097 or a 0.13% error. That is not too bad for an estimate.

What is disturbing to us is that the City DTS is using the Aug. 2004 Projections and the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP)

Page 3
August 25, 2010
Honolulu Rail FEIS

Is using the July 2009 projections as shown in their 2008 Annual Report, published in December 2009 (attachment # 5). Now, we have a Situation that DTS is not consistent with DPP, DBEDT and the Census Bureau.

For example, consider the projected population of 2010, using these different agencies projections or estimate. The following agencies population figures for 2010 are DTS-952,650, DBEDT and DPP-911,833, and the Census 2009 estimate-907,574. How much trust can you have in the DTS projections? Can this trust or mistrust extend to their ridership and revenue projections?

Now, consider the DBEDT breakdown of total resident population by 5-year age group, 2005-2030, as shown in attachment # 6. You notice under the last column of the attachment, Age Group Change, the greatest increase between 2005 to 2030 occurs in the 65+ group, with a smaller increase in the 0-19 group. However, in the 20-64 group, there was a decrease of 3,316 persons. Not a good omen for DTS ridership and revenue projections for 2030.

Since this FEIS is last chance for Oahu taxpayers to comment on this project, a better ridership and revenue projections should be given in this FEIS. Maybe, these figures could be given in a supplemental EIS.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Carole
Vice-President

**Table 1.25-- RESIDENT AND DE FACTO POPULATION
PROJECTIONS, BY COUNTIES: 2000 TO 2030**

[As of July 1. DBEDT 2030 Series]

Type of population and year	State total	City and County of Honolulu	Other counties			
			Total	Hawaii	Kauai	MauI 1/
Resident population 2/						
2000	1,212,670	875,881	336,789	149,261	58,560	128,968
2005	1,277,950	912,900	365,050	163,000	62,000	140,050
2010	1,346,600	952,650	393,950	176,750	65,900	151,300
2015	1,418,650	995,550	423,100	190,300	70,200	162,600
2020	1,489,550	1,037,250	452,250	203,050	74,750	174,450
2025	1,560,400	1,078,050	482,350	216,150	79,350	186,850
2030	1,630,450	1,117,300	513,150	229,700	83,900	199,550
Share of state resident population (percent):						
2000	100.0	72.2	27.8	12.3	4.8	10.6
2005	100.0	71.4	28.6	12.8	4.9	11.0
2010	100.0	70.7	29.3	13.1	4.9	11.2
2015	100.0	70.2	29.8	13.4	4.9	11.5
2020	100.0	69.6	30.4	13.6	5.0	11.7
2025	100.0	69.1	30.9	13.9	5.1	12.0
2030	100.0	68.5	31.5	14.1	5.1	12.2
De facto population 3/						
2000	1,335,156	925,444	409,712	166,446	74,726	168,540
2005	1,406,650	964,950	441,700	180,800	79,050	181,850
2010	1,490,500	1,011,600	478,900	196,500	84,850	197,550
2015	1,579,400	1,062,100	517,300	212,250	91,200	213,850
2020	1,663,450	1,109,500	553,950	226,800	97,450	229,700
2025	1,748,600	1,156,550	592,050	241,800	103,850	246,400
2030	1,834,200	1,202,600	631,600	257,700	110,400	263,500
Share of state de facto population (percent):						
2000	100.0	69.3	30.7	12.5	5.6	12.6
2005	100.0	68.6	31.4	12.9	5.6	12.9
2010	100.0	67.9	32.1	13.2	5.7	13.3
2015	100.0	67.2	32.8	13.4	5.8	13.5
2020	100.0	66.7	33.3	13.6	5.9	13.8
2025	100.0	66.1	33.9	13.8	5.9	14.1
2030	100.0	65.6	34.4	14.0	6.0	14.4

Continued on next page.

**Table 1.25-- RESIDENT AND DE FACTO POPULATION
PROJECTIONS, BY COUNTIES: 2000 TO 2030 -- Con.**

1/ Maui County including Kalawao County.

2/ The resident population is defined as the number of persons whose usual place of residence is in an area, regardless of physical location on the estimate or census date. It includes military personnel stationed or homeported in the area and residents temporarily absent, but excludes visitors present.

3/ The de facto population is defined as the number of persons physically present in an area, regardless of military status or usual place of residence. It includes visitors present but excludes residents temporarily absent, both calculated as an average daily census.

Source: Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, *Population and Economic Projections for the State of Hawaii to 2030 - DBEDT 2030 Series* (August 2004)
<http://www3.hawaii.gov/DBEDT/images/User_FilesImages/latestdata/Long-range_Projections_-_2030/Series2030Report_rev8-13-04_a974.pdf> accessed July 1, 2005.

**Table 1.28— RESIDENT POPULATION PROJECTIONS,
BY COUNTY: 2005 TO 2035**

[As of July 1. DBEDT 2035 Series]

Type of population and year	State total	City and County of Honolulu	Other counties			
			Total	Hawaii	Kauai	Maul 1/
Resident population 2/ 2005 3/	1,267,581	902,035	365,546	164,769	61,673	139,104
2010	1,332,880	932,120	400,770	185,850	65,340	149,580
2015	1,410,670	973,710	436,960	205,820	69,430	161,710
2020	1,482,390	1,010,370	472,020	225,000	73,520	173,500
2025	1,552,030	1,046,040	505,990	243,420	77,510	185,060
2030	1,619,870	1,080,700	539,170	261,340	81,370	196,460
2035	1,685,200	1,113,320	571,870	279,150	85,100	207,620
Annual growth rate (%)						
2005-2010 3/	1.0	0.7	1.9	2.4	1.2	1.5
2010-2015	1.1	0.9	1.7	2.1	1.2	1.6
2015-2020	1.0	0.7	1.6	1.8	1.2	1.4
2020-2025	0.9	0.7	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.3
2025-2030	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.2
2030-2035	0.8	0.6	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.1
Share of state resident population (percent):						
2005 3/	100.0	71.2	28.8	13.0	4.9	11.0
2010	100.0	69.9	30.1	13.9	4.9	11.2
2015	100.0	69.0	31.0	14.6	4.9	11.5
2020	100.0	68.2	31.8	15.2	5.0	11.7
2025	100.0	67.4	32.6	15.7	5.0	11.9
2030	100.0	66.7	33.3	16.1	5.0	12.1
2035	100.0	66.1	33.9	16.6	5.0	12.3

1/ Maui County including Kalawao County.

2/ The resident population is defined as the number of persons whose usual place of residence is in an area, regardless of physical location on the estimate or census date. It includes military personnel stationed or homeported in the area and residents temporarily absent, but excludes visitors present.

3/ Actual figure for July 1, 2005 from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Source: Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, *Population and Economic Projections for the State of Hawaii to 2035 - DBEDT 2035 Series*, Tables A-1 to A-6 (January 2008) <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/economic/data_reports/2035LongRangeSeries/2035_Long_Range_Series_Appendix_Tables.xls> accessed May 18, 2008.

**Table 1.28— RESIDENT POPULATION PROJECTIONS,
BY COUNTY: 2005 TO 2035**

[As of July 1. Revised DBEDT 2035 Series as of July 2009]

Type of population and year	State total	City and County of Honolulu	Other counties			
			Total	Hawaii	Kauai	Maui 1/
Resident population 2/						
2005 3/	1,264,468	899,673	364,795	164,462	61,589	138,744
2010	1,299,567	911,833	387,733	176,714	64,567	146,452
2015	1,367,795	941,824	425,971	199,488	68,440	158,043
2020	1,432,538	969,462	463,076	221,862	72,148	169,066
2025	1,492,253	994,610	497,644	242,642	75,598	179,404
2030	1,547,460	1,017,565	529,894	261,758	78,837	189,300
2035	1,598,675	1,038,316	560,359	279,706	81,925	198,727
Annual growth rate (%)						
2005-2010 3/	0.5	0.3	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.1
2010-2015	1.0	0.6	1.9	2.5	1.2	1.5
2015-2020	0.9	0.6	1.7	2.1	1.1	1.4
2020-2025	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.8	0.9	1.2
2025-2030	0.7	0.5	1.3	1.5	0.8	1.1
2030-2035	0.7	0.4	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.0
Share of state resident population (percent):						
2005 3/	100.0	71.2	28.8	13.0	4.9	11.0
2010	100.0	70.2	29.8	13.6	5.0	11.3
2015	100.0	68.9	31.1	14.6	5.0	11.6
2020	100.0	67.7	32.3	15.5	5.0	11.8
2025	100.0	66.7	33.3	16.3	5.1	12.0
2030	100.0	65.8	34.2	16.9	5.1	12.2
2035	100.0	64.9	35.1	17.5	5.1	12.4

1/ Maui County including Kalawao County.

2/ The resident population is defined as the number of persons whose usual place of residence is in an area, regardless of physical location on the estimate or census date. It includes military personnel stationed or homeported in the area and residents temporarily absent, but excludes visitors present.

3/ Actual figure for July 1, 2005 from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Source: Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, *Population and Economic Projections for the State of Hawaii to 2035 - DBEDT 2035 Series*, Tables A-1 to A-6 (July 2009). Report is forthcoming.

Subcounty Population Estimates and Percentage Change
for the State of Hawaii, by County: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008

County/Sub-County Area	April 1, 2000 Residential Population State 12	July 1, 2001	% change 7/1/2001 to 7/1/2000	July 1, 2003	% change 7/1/2003 to 7/1/2001	July 1, 2004	% change 7/1/2004 to 7/1/2003	July 1, 2005	% change 7/1/2005 to 7/1/2004	July 1, 2006	% change 7/1/2006 to 7/1/2005	July 1, 2007	% change 7/1/2007 to 7/1/2006	July 1, 2008	% change 7/1/2008 to 7/1/2007	April 2009 to July 1, 2009
Hawaii	1,211,036	1,211,506	0.0	1,230,296	0.6	1,252,795	1.1	1,266,117	0.1	1,275,506	0.7	1,278,520	0.1	1,287,487	0.1	8.9
Honolulu CDP	371,687	371,386	-0.1	374,322	0.4	374,681	0.1	375,111	0.1	375,459	0.1	375,260	-0.1	373,206	-0.6	0.6
Honolulu County	148,676	148,086	-0.4	150,345	1.5	160,170	2.4	164,887	2.8	168,545	2.0	173,182	2.8	178,506	3.0	18.6
Honolulu CDP	371,687	371,386	-0.1	374,322	0.4	374,681	0.1	375,111	0.1	375,459	0.1	375,260	-0.1	373,206	-0.6	0.6
Balance of Honolulu CDP	504,571	504,986	0.4	513,854	0.8	518,620	1.2	523,328	1.0	528,042	0.9	532,612	0.8	537,407	0.9	9.4
Kauai County	84,485	84,911	0.4	85,081	0.2	85,170	0.1	85,228	0.1	85,276	0.1	85,312	0.1	85,375	0.1	6.6
Maui County 2/	128,541	128,598	0.0	130,571	1.5	132,136	1.2	133,131	0.7	134,812	1.2	142,028	5.3	144,486	1.7	10.4
																13.3

1/ Reflects changes to the Census 2000 population from the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions.
2/ Including Niihau County.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (June 22, 2010); calculations by the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Table I-2
POPULATION TRENDS VERSUS GENERAL PLAN PERCENTAGES

Development Plan Area	% of Actual Population				% of Projected Population				General Plan Percentage for 2025 ¹
	1980	1990	2000		2010	2020	2025		
Primary Urban Center	54.7%	51.7%	47.9%		45.9%	44.6%	44.0%		46.0%
Ewa	4.7%	5.1%	7.8%		10.4%	12.7%	13.8%		13.0%
Central Oahu	13.3%	15.6%	16.9%		17.4%	17.1%	17.3%		17.0%
East Honolulu	5.7%	5.5%	5.3%		5.4%	5.3%	5.1%		5.3%
Koolauloko	14.3%	14.1%	13.5%		12.5%	12.0%	11.6%		11.6%
Koolauloa	1.4%	1.7%	1.7%		1.6%	1.5%	1.5%		1.4%
North Shore	1.7%	1.9%	2.1%		1.9%	1.9%	1.9%		1.7%
Waianae	4.1%	4.5%	4.8%		4.9%	4.8%	4.8%		4.0%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%	100%		100%

Development Plan Area	Actual Population				Projected Population			
	1980	1990	2000		2010	2020	2025	
Primary Urban Center	417,240	432,023	419,333		418,700	432,500	437,800	
Ewa	35,523	42,931	68,696		94,500	123,100	137,700	
Central Oahu	101,685	130,526	148,208		159,000	166,100	171,600	
East Honolulu	43,213	45,654	46,735		49,100	51,200	50,400	
Koolauloko	109,373	117,694	117,999		114,200	116,100	115,000	
Koolauloa	10,983	14,263	14,546		14,200	14,900	15,200	
North Shore	13,061	15,729	18,380		17,700	18,800	19,100	
Waianae	31,487	37,411	42,259		44,500	46,800	47,800	
TOTAL	762,565	836,231	876,156		911,800	969,500	994,600	

¹ General Plan Population Objective C Policy 4

Note: Parts may not sum to totals because of rounding

SOURCE: U.S. Census; Department of Planning and Permitting

Table I-3
GROWTH PROJECTIONS BY DP AREA
(2000 - 2035)

Part 1. RESIDENT POPULATION										
Development Plan Area	Number of Residents					Share of Oahu Total				
	Actual		Projected			Actual		Projected		
	2000	2015	2025	2035		2000	2015	2025	2035	
Primary Urban Center	419,333	427,429	437,818	447,715		48%	45%	44%	43%	
Ewa	68,696	107,234	137,721	164,556		8%	11%	14%	16%	
Central Oahu	148,208	161,999	171,595	181,423		17%	17%	17%	17%	
East Honolulu	46,735	51,119	50,400	48,843		5%	5%	5%	5%	
Koolaupoko	117,999	115,631	114,975	111,594		13%	12%	12%	11%	
Ko'olau Loa	14,546	14,592	15,150	15,452		2%	2%	2%	1%	
North Shore	18,380	18,325	19,126	19,517		2%	2%	2%	2%	
Waianae	42,259	45,518	47,847	49,217		5%	5%	5%	5%	
OAHU TOTAL	876,156	941,800	994,600	1,038,300		100%	100%	100%	100%	
Annual Growth Rate		0.5%	0.5%	0.4%						0.5%

Part 2. VISITOR UNITS				
Development Plan Area	Number		Share	
	2000	2035	2000	2035
Primary Urban Center	34,170	30,142	94%	76%
Ewa	392	7,204	1%	18%
Central Oahu	207	202	1%	1%
East Honolulu	371	352	1%	1%
Koolaupoko	60	71	0%	0%
Ko'olau Loa	595	1,401	2%	4%
North Shore	17	27	0%	0%
Waianae	509	208	1%	1%
OAHU TOTAL	36,321	39,600	100%	100%
Annual Growth Rate		0.2%		

Part 3. HOUSING UNITS										
Development Plan Area	Number of Housing Units					Share of Oahu Total				
	Actual		Projected			Actual		Projected		
	2000	2015	2025	2035		2000	2015	2025	2035	
Primary Urban Center	171,773	184,935	196,197	207,218		54%	52%	51%	50%	
Ewa	20,797	34,341	45,669	56,344		7%	10%	12%	14%	
Central Oahu	45,878	53,121	58,343	63,784		15%	15%	15%	15%	
East Honolulu	17,099	19,745	20,141	20,141		5%	6%	5%	5%	
Koolaupoko	36,964	38,185	39,280	39,280		12%	11%	10%	9%	
Ko'olau Loa	4,473	4,737	5,098	5,372		1%	1%	1%	1%	
North Shore	6,648	6,994	7,563	7,966		2%	2%	2%	2%	
Waianae	12,356	14,060	15,298	16,242		4%	4%	4%	4%	
OAHU TOTAL	315,988	356,100	387,600	416,300		100%	100%	100%	100%	
Annual Growth Rate		0.8%	0.9%	0.7%						0.8%

Development Plan Area	Estimated Total Units at Buildout	Housing Capacity Remaining as of:	
		2000	2035
Primary Urban Center	214,114	42,341	6,896
Ewa	75,651	54,854	19,307
Central Oahu	71,007	25,129	7,223
East Honolulu	20,141	3,042	0
Koolaupoko	39,280	2,316	0
Ko'olau Loa	6,315	1,842	943
North Shore	8,162	1,514	196
Waianae	17,365	5,009	1,123
OAHU TOTAL	452,035	136,047	35,700

Development Plan Area	2000 to 2035 Increase	% In-Increase
Primary Urban Center	35,445	21%
Ewa	35,547	171%
Central Oahu	17,906	39%
East Honolulu	3,042	18%
Koolaupoko	2,316	6%
Ko'olau Loa	899	20%
North Shore	1,318	20%
Waianae	3,886	31%
OAHU TOTAL	100,400	32%

NOTE: All projected "Oahu Total" counts are rounded to the nearest 100. In addition, percentage shares by DP area may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

(1) Areas with negative increases should be interpreted as stable communities with little or no growth expected. The negative population is caused by declines in household size that negated any population increases from housing unit gains.

Age group (years)	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	Change 2005-2030	Age Group Change
0 - 4	60,972	61,593	62,456	62,475	61,973	62,118	1,146	Ages 0-19
5 - 9	52,484	54,928	60,941	61,810	61,807	61,280	8,796	
10 - 14	56,621	47,272	52,109	58,123	58,975	58,953	2,332	
15 - 19	56,995	56,459	49,451	52,287	58,285	59,120	2,125	
20 - 24	70,385	69,455	69,830	60,850	65,655	71,616	1,231	
25 - 29	68,558	65,177	67,222	67,596	58,610	63,368	-1,170	Ages 20-64
30 - 34	63,600	59,930	64,155	66,213	66,570	57,589	-6,011	
35 - 39	69,979	61,373	60,025	64,244	66,289	66,636	2,637	
40 - 44	65,597	59,543	57,618	56,811	60,511	62,550	-3,047	
45 - 49	69,512	60,870	56,925	55,049	53,778	57,957	-5,555	
50 - 54	59,393	61,227	59,723	55,890	54,072	52,849	-6,544	
55 - 59	54,543	57,607	60,851	58,455	55,742	53,998	-3,447	
60 - 64	40,560	51,278	56,534	59,811	58,560	55,029	14,469	
65 - 69	31,541	38,708	49,564	54,749	58,045	56,998	25,457	
70 - 74	29,201	30,196	36,652	46,927	51,972	55,260	26,059	
75 - 79	27,573	26,496	27,135	33,139	42,629	47,470	19,897	
80 - 84	21,297	23,895	22,290	29,046	28,419	38,827	15,530	
85 +	18,080	26,112	30,346	51,486	32,718	37,947	19,867	
Total	899,673	911,835	941,824	969,462	994,610	1,017,565	117,892	117,892

Source: http://hawaii.gov/dcdet/info/economic/data_reports/2035LongRangeSeries

14,399

Apr 5 20-64

-3,316

Ages 65+

106,810